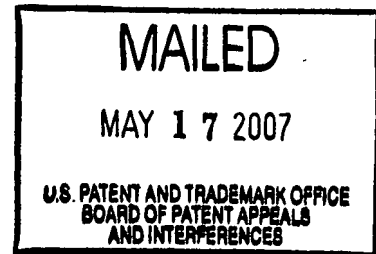


UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

BEFORE THE BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS
AND INTERFERENCE

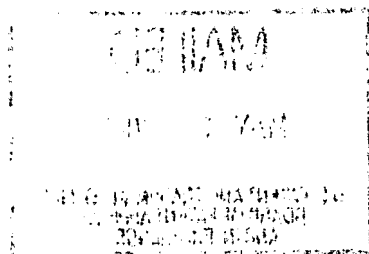
Ex parte KENNETH JAMES BARKER,
HAYDEN CLAVIE CRANFORD, JR., CHARLES REEVES HOFFMAN,
JEFFREY JAMES LYNCH and MARK EDMUND SCHEUER

Application 09/839,179



ORDER RETURNING UNDOCKETED APPEAL TO EXAMINER

This application was electronically received at the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences (BPAI) on March 2, 2007. A review of the application has revealed that the application is not ready for docketing as an appeal. Accordingly, the application is herewith being returned to the examiner. The matter requiring attention prior to docketing is identified below.



September 7, 2006, Appellant filed a Supplemental Appeal Brief. A review of the file reveals that the “Summary of Claimed Subject Matter” does not map the independent claim to the specification, as set forth in 37 CFR § 41.37(c)(1)(v) which states:

(v) Summary of claimed subject matter. A concise explanation of the subject matter defined in each of the independent claims involved in the appeal, which shall refer to the specification by page and line number, and to the drawing, if any, by reference characters. For each independent claim involved in the appeal and for each dependent claim argued separately under the provisions of paragraph (c)(1)(vii) of this section, every means plus function and step plus function as permitted by 35 U.S.C. 112, sixth paragraph, must be identified and the structure, material, or acts described in the specification as corresponding to each claimed function must be set forth with reference to the specification by page and line number, and to the drawing, if any, by reference characters.

Proper correction of the Appeal Brief is required.

Accordingly, it is ORDERED that the application is return to the

Examiner to:

- 1) hold the Supplemental Appeal Brief filed on September 7, 2006, defective;

Application 09/839,179

- 2) notify Appellants to file a supplemental Appeal Brief compliance with 37 C.F.R. § 41.37;
- 3) for the Examiner to consider any supplemental Appeal Brief; and
- 4) for such further action as may be appropriate.

BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS
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PJN/kis

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